

IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Robert Rust et al.

Confirmation No.:

Application No.:

Examiner:

Filing Date:

Group Art Unit:

Title: Data Storage Systems and Methods

**EL979977571**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of national application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:  
☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or  
☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(After the CFR 1.97 (b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97 (d) together with a:  
☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) or (2), and  
☐ a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).  
(Filed after final action, a notice of allowance, on or before payment of the issue fee)

Please charge to Deposit Account **08-2025** the sum of \$0.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **08-2025** pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

☒ Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 - Information Disclosure Statement together with a listing of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56. See attached Letter Regarding Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individuals(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

"Express Mail" label no. **EL 979977571 US**

Date of Deposit 10/16/03

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By Trinity Coxon

Typed Name: Trinity Coxon

Respectfully submitted,

**Robert Rust et al.**

By [Signature]

**James D. Shaurette**

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. **39,833**

Date: 10/16/03

**PATENT APPLICATION  
DOCKET NO. 10991599-3**

**IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**INVENTOR(S):** Robert Rust et al.

**SERIAL NO.:** Filed Herewith

**GROUP ART UNIT:** Unknown

**FILED:** Filed Herewith

**EXAMINER:** Unknown

**SUBJECT:** DATA STORAGE SYSTEMS AND METHODS

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**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA VA 22313-1450**

**EL979977571**

**SIR:**


**Letter Regarding Information Disclosure Statement**

The listed references were cited by, or submitted to, the Office in the parent, co-pending application of the above-identified application. The above-identified application is a continuation application of co-pending application Serial No. 09/552,669, filed April 19, 2000. Such prior disclosure is sufficient for the above-identified application as far as copies of the references are concerned. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) and MPEP § 609(2).

Citation of these references is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Rust et al.

By:

  
James D. Shaurette  
Reg. No. 39,833  
October 16, 2003

<b>FORM PTO-1449</b>  <b>LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
	<b>10991599-3</b>		
	APPLICANT		
	<b>Christine Grund et al.</b>		
	FILING DATE	GROUP	

## REFERENCE DESIGNATION

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figures Appear
	1A	5,592,610	1-1997	Chittor	
	1B	5,953,351	9-1999	Hicks et al.	
	1C	5,928,370	7-1999	Asnaashari	
	1D	6,073,251	6-2000	Jewett et al.	
	1E	5,680,537	10-1997	Byers et al.	
	1F	5,383,201	1-1995	Satterlee et al.	
	1G				
	1H				
	1I				
	1J				
	1K				

EL979977571

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT	Pages/Columns/Lines Where Relevant Passages/Figures Appear	Check if Translation attached
	1L					
	1M					
	1N					
	1O					
	1P					

## OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	1Q	
	1R	
	1S	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED